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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
DOCKETED

CARL J. KUNASEK

Chairman

JIM IRVIN

Commissioner

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL

Commissioner

OCT 10 2000

DOCKETED BY

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IN THE MATTER OF VERIZON CALIFORNIA,)
INC. - ARIZONA TARIFF FILING TO REFLECT)
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ENHANCED)
FEDERAL LIFELINE AND EXPANDED LINK)
UP SUPPORT FOR QUALIFYING LOW-)
INCOME CONSUMERS ON TRIBAL LANDS)

DOCKET NO. T-01846B-00-0653

DECISION NO. 62936ORDER

Open Meeting
October 4 and 5, 2000
Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On August 31, 2000, Verizon California Inc. – Arizona (Verizon) filed tariff revisions to reflect the establishment of Federal Communication Commission (FCC) Enhanced Tribal Lifeline and Expanded Link Up Programs:

Exchange Tariff

Schedule A-1, Sheet A1-1, 8th Revised
Schedule A-1, Sheet A1-1A, 5th Revised
Schedule A-1, Sheet A1-27, Original
Schedule A-5, Sheet A5-2, 2nd Revised
Schedule A-5, Sheet A5-8, 2nd Revised

2. The FCC in its Order 00-208, released June 30, 2000, approved additional Lifeline and Link Up support for qualifying low-income individuals living on tribal lands. Verizon is requesting that the proposed tariff revisions have an effective date of October 1, 2000, the date by which telecommunications carriers must comply with the new rules adopted in FCC Order 00-208.

3. On September 11, 2000, Verizon amended its filing to reflect the FCC's partial stay of Order 00-208:

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Exchange Tariff

Schedule A-1, Sheet A1-27, Original
Schedule A-5, Sheet A5-1, 3rd Revised

4. Verizon eliminated reference to the implementation of enhanced Lifeline and Link Up support for individuals living in areas or communities near reservations.

5. On September 15, 2000, Verizon amended its filing a second time to include minor clarifying changes Staff had requested:

Exchange Tariff

Schedule A-1, Sheet A1-27, Original
Schedule A-5, Sheet A5-2, 2nd Revised
Schedule A-5, Sheet A5-8, 2nd Revised

6. Also in the September 15, 2000, filing Verizon agreed to waive the 30-day time limit for the Commission to act so that the filing could be addressed at the October 4 and 5, 2000, Open Meeting.

7. In its Order, the FCC established an additional (fourth) tier of federal Lifeline support available to telecommunications carriers serving qualifying low-income individuals living on tribal lands. This fourth tier of support consists of up to \$25.00 per month per primary residential connection. This amount added to the initial three tiers of Lifeline support add up to a reduction in the carrier's basic local service bill of up to \$31.10. This benefit, however, may not bring the local service bill of a qualifying individual below \$1.00 per month.

8. An individual who qualifies for the Enhanced Tribal Lifeline Program is also eligible for an additional benefit of up to \$70.00 under the Expanded Link Up Program. This benefit would apply to the cost of connecting service at the individual's principal place of residence and would apply towards 100 percent of the connection charges between \$60.00 and \$130.00 when service is established.

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9. Approval of the proposed tariff revisions will enable Verizon to provide the additional Lifeline and Link Up support to qualifying low-income individuals who are living on tribal lands within its service area.

10. Staff has recommended that the Commission approve the filing, as amended.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Verizon is an Arizona public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.

2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Verizon and over the subject matter in this Application.

3. Approval of the filing does not constitute a rate increase as contemplated by A.R.S. Section 40-250.

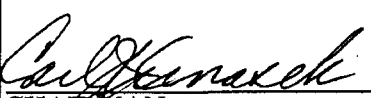
4. The Commission having reviewed the tariff pages (copies of which are contained in the Commission's tariff files) and Staff's Memorandum dated September 25, 2000, concludes that the tariff, as amended, is reasonable, fair and equitable and therefore in the public interest.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the filing, as amended, be and hereby is approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

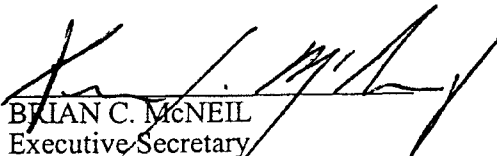
BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION


CHAIRMAN


COMMISSIONER


COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive Secretary of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 10th day of October, 2000.


BRIAN C. McNEIL
Executive Secretary

DISSENT: _____

DRS:DWS:llh

Decision No. 62936